

The Brethren Evangelist,

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Editorial.

THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION.

The growth of temperance sentiment and the restrictions placed on the Liquor Traffic in the different states, are hopeful signs of the times. That the sentiment against the sale and manufacture of intoxicating drink is growing stronger is not to be questioned. The common schools of the country, Sabbath-schools, Young People's Societies and the pulpit, together with the various temperance organizations, are gradually moulding sentiment, and strengthening the cause of temperance.

Legislatures, all over the country, at almost every session, are forced by their constituents, and public sentiment in general, to take up the question and draw the reins closer and closer. Slowly, it may be, but surely, the abominable traffic in alcoholic liquors is being "squeezed" out. There are a number of newly assembled Legislatures in which the temperance question occupies the first place. In the State of Ohio, the local option bill is receiving substantial support. This bill, if passed, will give counties the right to prohibit bar-rooms within their borders. Last Sabbath a week ago, there were seventy sermons preached in the city of Cincinnati, urging the people to demand the passage of the bill. Last Sabbath 100 sermons were preached in Cleveland, on the same subject, besides thousands of other services throughout the State, under the direction of the anti-saloon League. In Iowa and New York the question is being strongly agitated, while in Canada the Prohibitions have scored a succession of victories. The Prohibitory Union has elected its candidate for Mayor in the city of Toronto, together with seven members of the Board of Alderman. In Manitoba five-sixths of the Liberal candidates for the Legislature were Prohibitionists, and the great Liberal victory was a Prohibition victory.

Thus the good work is going on. Temperance workers have every reason to feel encouraged. The work is moving grandly

forward. We are gaining ground each day. It is a great struggle. Satan's strongest hold on the world to-day is the Liquor Traffic. He is not so ready to let loose his hold, as it means a great loss to him. Gradually the business is being undermined, and some day there will be a tremendous crash and the liquor business will be a thing of the past. Let all lovers of virtue, peace and righteousness, of law, good government and citizenship—all who love the coming of our Lord's Kingdom, unite their *prayers* and *votes*, in the destruction of this the most formidable foe of the church and the peace of our land and homes.

THE PASTOR AND REVIVAL WORK.

We are pleased to learn that so many of our pastors are conducting their own revival meetings. We have more than once called the attention of well organized congregations to the fact that the proper person to hold their revival meetings is the pastor, unless he is otherwise engaged. Among the most successful meetings reported are those where the pastor does the preaching. We mention Brethren Bowman, Smith, Haskins, Mackey, Shively, Yoder, Livingood, Talley, Teeter, Summers, Rench, McFaden, and many others whom we might name. The advantages of this method we have referred to in these columns before, and shall not repeat them. Suffice it to say that the pastor will find his work far easier and more pleasant, if he gathers the harvest of his own sowing.

APPRECIATES THE PAPER.

It always encourages and helps one when he finds the labors of his hands appreciated. Once in a great while we receive a letter from some one who is displeased with the paper. But where we receive one such, we receive letters from at least twenty others who express themselves as very highly pleased with the paper and could not do without it. Here is an extract from one out of a hundred: "I don't know how I could do without the paper, and yet I hardly have the means sufficient to pay for it. But I am going to deny myself of other things even if I must go fasting so I can have the EVANGELIST in my home. I think every one in the brotherhood should take the paper and thereby advance our church's interest and keep up our Publishing House."

This brother has the right spirit. Too many of those who say they cannot afford

to take the paper, deny themselves of no luxury for the sake of taking the paper. If it is a question of attending two shows during the year or subscribing for the paper, they deliberately choose the former. Too often when expenses have to be curtailed, people begin with the church paper, and contributions to the church. How different the self-denying spirit of the brother from whose letter we quote. It is this spirit of self-denial that counts with God and fills life with rich blessings.

AN EXCELLENT PLAN.

Brother J. D. McFaden closed his revival services at Preston, Nebr., and organized with forty members. He has ordered the EVANGELIST sent into every home represented by these forty members. This is an excellent plan and should be followed wherever new members are received into the church. It will keep the new converts in touch with the work of the church; it will aid in educating them into a right spirit of duty. It will be a great help to the pastor in educating the people along the various lines of church work. The work of the young people, the work of the sisters, and Sabbath-school work will be kept prominently before them. Brother Haskins, of Johnstown has ordered a roll of papers to put into the new families lately added to his congregation. Let the good work go on. We will reach the 3000 if each one will do his duty. A minister in the German Baptist church who is trying to get the church paper into every family in his congregation, writes in the *Gospel Messenger* as follows:

"Some of our brethren claim that the price of the *Messenger* is too high, and that they cannot afford to pay for it. They maintain that the political papers are not so expensive, by one-half to one-third. Of course they love politics more than they love the good news from the churches, and the wholesome lessons found in the *Messenger*. We can see a difference in those who take an interest in the *Messenger* and those who do not. Those who do not take the paper are on the back ground in church work, as well as in their Christian warfare. They are no earnest and zealous workers in the church and their children become unconcerned about the church and wander away from that which is just and right. Then those very parents become concerned about the eternal welfare of their offspring, and call on us ministers to come and visit their children and talk to them about their eterna